



ST. ANDREW'S CROSS

MARCH 2022

VOLUME 67, ISSUE 3

"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."
Matthew 6:19-21

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SPRING FORWARD

MARCH 13th



March Worship Schedule

- March 2: **Ash Wednesday**
7:00pm Service In-Person and Livestreamed
- March 6: **First Sunday in Lent**
8:30am Service In-Person and Livestreamed
10:30am Service In-Person
- March 9: **Wednesday Evening Prayer Service**
7:00pm Service In-Person and Livestreamed
- March 13: **Second Sunday in Lent**
8:30am Service In-Person and Livestreamed
10:30am Service In-Person
- March 16: **Wednesday Evening Prayer Service**
7:00pm Service In-Person and Livestreamed
- March 20: **Third Sunday in Lent**
8:30am Service In-Person and Livestreamed
10:30am Service In-Person
- March 23: **Wednesday Evening Prayer Service**
7:00pm Service In-Person and Livestreamed
- March 27: **Fourth Sunday in Lent**
8:30am Service In-Person and Livestreamed
10:30am Service In-Person
- March 30: **Wednesday Evening Prayer Service**
7:00pm Service In-Person and Livestreamed

ST. ANDREW'S CROSS

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STANDREWS@RCN.COM

live
stream

Just a reminder that all livestreamed services can be easily accessed through a link on our website at www.standrewspalmer.org.

Simply go to the Calendar page and hover over or click on the service you are interested in joining. Click again where it says "Zoom Link for Live Broadcast".

FROM THE PASTOR

We Need Your Help to Continue Our Mission

As a parent, one of the things that I always tried to help my children with was to share their needs and wants with me in a good and helpful way. I have always been lousy at reading minds, and therefore always wanted my children to share their needs and wants.

Of course, they did not always get everything they asked for, but more often than not they had a better chance of getting what they wanted if they asked for it.

This is not a perfect analogy when it comes to financial giving to the church, but then again, I'm not perfect. Here is what I ask of you:



- Be very consistent with your giving patterns.
- If you have not given, we need you to give.

This is why I ask. This past January the total offering for the month was very low. Quite honestly, mission and ministry are not sustainable at those giving levels. Our total approved budget is \$235,014.42. To meet the budget, we need to receive \$19,584.54 a month. In January of 2022, we received \$10,887.50. That is a huge gap.

I know we can do better, and truth be told, we have no choice but to do better.

I believe in St. Andrew's and its mission to reach out with the Gospel. We need your help to continue that mission.

Thank you for your consideration.

- *Pastor Neel*

Music Notes

By Mark Jonkman, Director of Music

The Chancel Choir officially resumed rehearsals on February 17, with rehearsals in the worship space. The first 'performance' is scheduled for Sunday, February 27th at the 10:30 service, which is Transfiguration Sunday as well as First Holy Communion.

The return of our Chancel Choir means that the '**Short Term Membership Program**' will begin on time. So...

1. Approximately 4 weeks before Easter (Thursday, March 24th), you are invited to be a part of the Chancel Choir on a short term basis.
2. Rehearsals will take place on Thursday evenings at 7:00pm in the Sanctuary.
3. In addition to the rehearsals, we only ask that you promise us to sing at one or both of the Easter Sunday services on Sunday, April 17th, 2022.



DELEGATES NEEDED for SYNOD ASSEMBLY

June 10 & 11, 2022—Online Only



St. Andrew's is looking for two delegates to represent our congregation at this year's (virtual) online assembly. Due to continued uncertainty with regard to the pandemic, and associated costs with cancelling a planned event, the decision has been made to hold Synod assembly virtually once again this year. This year's theme is "Stronger Together".

No computer at home? Fear not! Hope House will once again be made available for our delegates. Please contact the church office or Pastor Neel if you are interested in being a delegate.



Please contact the office directly with all changes to your email, phone, and physical mailing address.

Having the wrong address on file not only is a waste of resources, but we are charged for all returned and forwarded mail.

More importantly, we want you to be kept informed of all church worship information and news.

CHURCH COUNCIL

HIGHLIGHTS *from the* February 14th Council Meeting:

COVID Update: No changes to the 8:30am service. A motion was passed to no longer require masks for the fully vaccinated when entering the building for the 10:30am service. Pastor will continue to mask for communion. Pastor will return to the Narthex after all services.



Finance: The committee will meet Feb. 17 to discuss the upcoming audit.

Treasurer: January offerings were very low, less than half of what was needed for expenses.

SAW Events: SAW will make a decision on holding the Mother's Day Tea, and any changes regarding attendance, by the end of the month. There hasn't yet been a decision about whether or not to hold the Rummage Sale.

Synod Assembly: We are still looking for both a female and a male representative for the congregation.

Music: Choir rehearsals will resume February 16. Mark Jonkman has proposed replacing the aging acoustic piano in the worship space with a digital piano.

Office/Resource Management: Elizabeth will be off for extended medical leave. Janet Ward will assist with The Cross in Elizabeth's absence. An editing program for PDF documents will be purchased for the two office computers. The office is still investigating what has caused recent communication difficulties within our email system.

Mutual Ministry: The Synod document "Congregational Mutual Ministry Committee" has shown that St. Andrew's will need to work toward Synod compliance, as well as our Constitution, to reform this committee.

Youth and Family: Enrollment has begun at SANS for the upcoming school year.

Property: We continue to have a leak around the steeple. The depression in the grass was filled with 4 tons of dirt and will be monitored for additional shrinkage. If this is successful, the same method will be used on the macadam. Macadam is also deteriorating on the south side of the parking lot.

Worship & Music: Ash Wednesday service will be in-person and online at 7pm with masks required in person. The remaining Wednesday services during Lent will be online only. There is hope that Holy Week services will be held in person, depending upon Covid numbers at that time.

Congregational Care: Lay Eucharistic Visitors are working to best serve within Covid Guidelines. Meals are being prepared and delivered to a church member twice a week. Blood pressure screenings and coffee hours have been suspended temporarily.

Community Care: Easton Neighborhood Center is grateful for the continued donations of diapers, laundry detergent, & food.

Spiritual Gifts: Discussions have begun to revamp both the committee and the spiritual gifts database.

2022 CHURCH COUNCIL

**denotes Team Liaison*

April Shaheen, President: 610-559-1038, adshaheen@rcn.com, **Resource Management*

Blair Miers, Vice President: 610-442-5686, blairmiers@gmail.com, **Mutual Ministry*

Nancy Konn, Secretary: 484-239-6842, nskonn4217@gmail.com

Teresa Diehl, Exec. Cmte: 610-248-2421, sntdiehl@rcn.com, **Community Care*

Deborah Ealer: 610-330-0209, jd110803@rcn.com, **Finance*

Sue Himmelreich: 610-258-2313, suebsn86@aol.com **Congregational Care*

Pete Merluzzi: 908-763-1152, merluzzipete@yahoo.com, **Property*

Kate Piorkowski: 484-553-7547, catherinepiorkowski@gmail.com, **Youth and Family*

Laurie Roth: 610-252-7619, ronaldroth@aol.com **Spiritual Gifts*

Ed Schaeffer: 610-258-4280, 610vette63@gmail.com

Non-Council Officer:

Jonathan Bleice, Treasurer: 610-462-9488, jonathan.bleice@gmail.com

General Fund Financial Summary

**For the Month Ending
January 31, 2022**

January Offerings:
\$10,887.50

January Expenses:
\$23,280.97

January Shortage:
(\$12,393.47)

Get to Know Your
NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS

ED SCHAEFFER

I live in Palmer with my wife of 42 years, Kathy. We have two adult children and four grandchildren.

I started attending Sunday School at age three, and have been a member of St Andrew's for more than 60 years. I fondly remember the chicken coop, barn and parsonage.

I was on Church Council in the early 2000's, and I have been a member of the Property Committee for many years.

In my retirement, I enjoy spending time with my grandchildren, fishing, hunting, playing golf, and bowling. I am looking forward to serving the congregation once again in this position.

LAURIE ROTH

Hello, St. Andrew's! I am Laurie Roth, wife to Ron, mother to Sarah Roth Emery and Elizabeth Roth (soon to be Ford), and grandmother to Morgan and Joshua.

I have been a member of St. Andrew's since 1978, after spending my life until then as a member of the United Church of Christ (Zion UCC in Nanticoke, PA) where I was baptized and confirmed.

I retired in 2017 from a career in higher education, most of which was spent at Moravian College as the Director of Academic and Disability Support, where I helped struggling students and students with disabilities succeed.

During my time at St. Andrew's, I have worked with the Youth Group, served on the Congregational Council several times under different pastors, including serving as Council Secretary and as a member of the Personnel Committee. I also have been a lector, served on the Worship and Music Committee, and volunteered for Vacation Bible School, both as a teacher and as one of a trio of "snack ladies."

VANCO
FAITH

Please contact our Financial Secretary, Janet Rhymer, if you require a change to your Vanco contributions.

Although changes may have been written on your annual pledge card, it is still necessary to contact Janet personally to give authorization for any change to your account.

Janet can be reached at 610-258-0023 or by emailing jeej30@aol.com.

Please note that the office staff does not have access to financials, and therefore we are unable to help with this process.

These procedures are in place to keep your information secure.

THRIVENT

Thrivent Financial Services granted St. Andrew's \$924 in 2021. This donation happened because several members have generously designated St. Andrew's as the recipient of their Thrivent Choice Dollars.

Thrivent offers members the opportunity to forward grant money at no cost to them. If you are currently a Thrivent member and have not yet designated your Thrivent Choice Dollars, this designation can be made for 2021 through March 31st.

Please consider St. Andrew's for your Choice Dollars. For more information, go online to:

thrivent.com/about-us/what-makes-us-different/



St. Andrew's Women (SAW)

The Strong. The Proud. The Backbone.



Wednesday, March 9

10:00am in the Church Social Room

Guest: the Rev. Walter Wagner
Program: Jewish-Christian and Muslim-Christian dialog and relationships.
Devotions: Jean Pleiss
Mission: Jill Machado

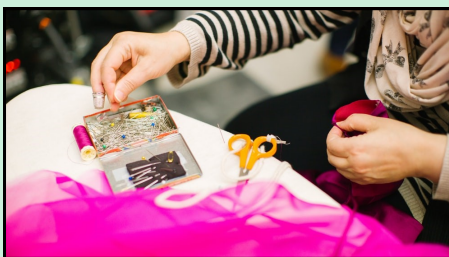
SAW is open to all women— Members and friends of St. Andrew's are welcome to attend on a come as you can basis.

SAW provides support to the church, community, and many other charitable organizations through a number of unique and widely anticipated annual fundraising events.

SAW meets in the church building on the second Wednesday each month.

St. Andrew's Comforters

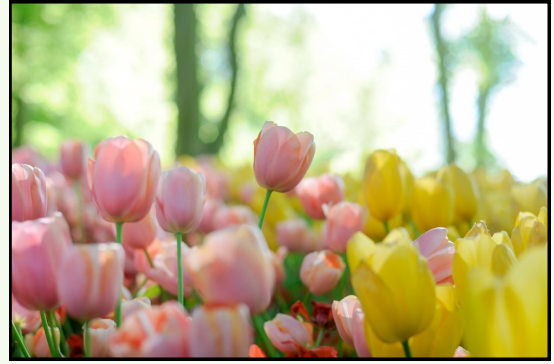
Wednesday, March 16 @ 10am
Church Social Room



SAC is a faithful group of ladies who meet on the third Wednesday of the month to make quilts for our high school graduates and many others in the community.

For more information about St. Andrew's Comforters, contact Mary Ann Gaumer at 610-258-2219.

EASTER FLOWERS



Easter flowers will once again be made available for purchase. Flowers may be ordered "in memory of" or "in honor of" a loved one.

As of this printing, we don't yet have updated pricing or available flower types from the vendor. **Please watch bulletins and email**, and know that orders will be needed by April 3rd.

Memorials



Memorials were received in memory of Clyde McIntyre from Diane and Nicholas Azzolina, Jean and Robert Blitz, Thurza and Geoffrey Bruen, Terry and Charles Melick, Nancy and Robert Michler, Lois and John Pinto, and Anne Wenninger.

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YOUNG JOHN THE BAPTIST ATTEMPTS
TO EARN SOME EXTRA CASH

March Birthdays

3/01 Warren Bray, Terrianne Novak, Claire Sadler
 3/02 Bonnie Leidy, Dr. Seuss, Chris Stydinger, Makayla Young
 3/03 Ronald Orcutt II
 3/05 Ryan Miller
 3/06 David Fretz, Anthony Maietti
 3/07 David Holland, Jason Pickel, Mariah Rose
 3/08 Annalie Carlberg, Vincent Mariconda, Donovan Mashintonio
 3/09 Jennifer Quimby
 3/10 Irene Bradbury, Stephen Reese, Marge Sickie, Harriet Tubman
 3/11 Mary Ann Gaumer
 3/12 Neil Brinker, Anna Fretz
 3/14 Albert Einstein, Bellalyn Fimiano, Cooper Miller, William Tichy
 3/15 Lauren Peters
 3/16 Debbie Fahie, Bennett Rymon
 3/17 Edward McIntyre, Lori Miller
 3/18 Benjamin Walchak
 3/19 Nicolas Merida
 3/20 Linda Trigiani, Robby Welsh, Ruth Ann Welsh
 3/21 Pat Bean
 3/22 Carol Micolochick, Michelle Webb
 3/23 Betty Detweiler
 3/24 Nancy Konn, Bob Pearse, June Robinson
 3/25 Kyle Callantine, Laura Scheirer
 3/26 Julie Klabunde, Allyson McCready, Kelly McCready, Kylie Skutches
 3/27 Victoria Hess
 3/28 Shawn Oraschin
 3/29 Fred Duckworth, CJ Wolff
 3/30 Joan Heebner, Ethan Kessler, Renee' Schneck, Vincent van Gogh, Diana Walsh
 3/31 Johann Sebastian Bach, Jen Lesak, Warren Rute



Reminder-

Please let us know if we have missed a (human) family member's birthday, as many of our members don't have birthdays on file.

For the record, we would like to celebrate the birthdays of our furry friends, but space is limited.

March Calendar

Tuesday, March 1

7:00pm Property Team via Zoom,

Wednesday, March 2

7:00pm In-person Worship Service
(Live broadcast via Zoom)

Sunday, March 6

First Sunday of Lent

8:30am Holy Communion Service
Faith Builders
Live Broadcast via Zoom
10:30am Holy Communion Service
6:30pm Confirmation

Wednesday, March 9

10:00am SAW Meeting in Social Room
7:00pm Lenten Midweek Worship via Zoom

Thursday, March 10

7:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Friday, March 11

7:30pm Crossroads AA

Sunday, March 13

Second Sunday of Lent

Daylight Savings Time Begins

8:30am Holy Communion Service
Faith Builders
Live Broadcast via Zoom
10:30am Holy Communion Service
6:30pm Confirmation

Monday, March 14

7:00pm Council Meeting via Zoom

Wednesday, March 16

10:00am SA Comforters in Social Room
7:00pm Lenten Midweek Worship via Zoom

Thursday, March 17

7:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, March 20

Third Sunday of Lent

First Day of Spring

8:30am Holy Communion Service
Faith Builders
Live Broadcast via Zoom
10:30am Holy Communion Service
6:30pm Confirmation

Wednesday, March 23

7:00pm Lenten Midweek Worship via Zoom

Thursday, March 24

7:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal
**Short-Term Choir Membership Begins*
7:00pm Community Care Mtg. via Zoom

Friday, March 25

7:30pm Crossroads AA

Sunday, March 27

Fourth Sunday of Lent

8:30am Holy Communion Service
Faith Builders
Live Broadcast via Zoom
10:30am Holy Communion Service
6:30pm Confirmation
7:45pm Supplemental Council Mtg via Zoom

Thursday, March 31

7:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

